

Message Text

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22

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4084

INFO ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO VIA POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT MX

SUBJECT: PRI BACKS SOCIALIST PARTY PRESIDENT FOR SENATE

REF: A) 75 MEXICO 10021; B) 75 MEXICO 11046; C) MEXICO A-96

1. IN A HISTORIC FIRST, THE RULING PRI HAS ENDORSEED THE SENATORIAL CANDIDACY OF THE "OPPOSITION" POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY (PPS) PRESIDENT, JORGE CRUICKSHANK GARCIA, FROM THE STATE OF OAXACA. THE SWITCH CAME WHEN THE PRI SENATORIAL CANDIDATE, PEDRO VAZQUEZ COLMENARES, RESIGNED HIS CANDIDACY MARCH 31 TO BE NAMED SUBSECRETARY OF AGRARIAN REFORM.

2. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT PPS GAVE PRI RUN FOR ITS MONEY IN GUBERNATORIAL ELECTRIONS IN NAYARIT LAST NOVEMBER (REF A), RESULTING IN CHARGES OF FRAUD, "PRIVATE" MEETINGS BETWEEN CRUICKSHANK AND PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, FOLLOWED BY PPS DROPPING ISSUE AND LATER BACKING PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF PRI CANDIDATE JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO. PRESS AT TIME OPENLY STATED THAT A DEAL HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED. IN REF B WE SPECULATED THAT PPS HAD BEEN PROMISED MORE AT LARGE FEDERAL DEPUTY SEATS AND IN REF C THAT PERHAPS CRUICKSHANK MIGHT BE ALLOWED TO WIN ON OAXACA. SOLUTION TO DILEMNA OF HOW TO ALLOW PPS VICTORY WITHOUT PRI LOSING HAS BEEN NICELY RESOLVED BY WITHDRAWAL OF VAZQUEZ AND PRI ENDORSEMENT OF CRUICKSHANK IN "REVOLUTIONARY

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COALITION" OF PRI AND PPS.

3. TRANSPARENCY OF THE DEAL BETWEEN PRI AND PPS IS
RECEIVING RIDICULE IN MEXICAN PRESS. CRUICKSHANK IS
ANGRILY DENYING THAT HE'S A TRAITOR TO SOCIALIST CAUSE,
ARGUING THAT HE HAS ALLIED HIMSELF WITH THE "PROGRESSIVE
ELEMENTS" WITHIN THE PRI. NET EFFECT APPEARS TO BE THAT
STANDING OF NATIONAL PPS LEADERSHIP IN PUCLIC EYES WILL
SINK TO NEW LOW, CONTINUING DOWNWARD TRAJECTORY BEGUN
WHEN FOUNDER VICENTE LOMBARDO TOLEDANO DIED IN 1968.
THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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